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CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of arresting continuation of a split in a log wherein the split appears as a crack in an end face of such log, comprising the steps of providing a plate that has spaced apart spikes projecting from one face thereof and at least one plate pull tab, each said pull tab being of selected length, integral with said plate and operably engageable by a tool disposed adjacent a face of said plate opposite said one face, positioning said plate to span across the gap of said crack and driving the spikes of said plate into the end of the log at locations on each of opposite sides of said crack.
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2. The method of claim 1 including the step of bending said pull tab outwardly in a direction away said log end face, lockingly engaging said pull tab with a tool and moving said tool to extract the spikes of said plate from said log.
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3. The method of claim 2 including the step of inserting said pull tab into a slot in said tool and moving the tool so that a generally right angular bend is formed in said pull tab and thereby being in locking engagement with the tool during further movement of the same.
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4. The method of claim 3 wherein said tool has a curved outer face portion rollingly engageable with said face of said plate opposite said one face thereof.
5. A plate having a pair of oppositely disposed faces, a plurality of spaced apart spikes projecting from one of said pair of faces and at least one plate pull tab integral with said plate and of selected length, each said pull tab being exposed for locking engagement with a tool disposed adjacent the face of said plate opposite said one face.
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6. A spiked plate as defined in claim 5 wherein there are a pair of said pull tabs that are spaced apart from one another longitudinally along said plate.
- 7.. A spiked plate as defined in claim 6 wherein said pair of pull tabs extend in a direction toward one another whereby free terminal outer ends associated with the respective tabs face one
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another.

8. A spiked plate as defined in claim 6 wherein said pair of pull tabs extend in a direction away from one another whereby terminal free outer ends associated with the respective tabs face in a direction away from one another.

5 9. A spiked plate as defined in claim 5 including means on each said plate pull tab that projects therefrom in a direction corresponding to that of said spikes and thereby spacing the respective pull tabs a selected distance from the surface of an object impaled by said spikes.

10. A spiked plate as defined in claim 6 wherein said pull tabs are located in respective ones of a pair of space apart open windows in said plate.

10 11. A spiked plate as defined in claim 10 wherein said pull tabs and plate are coplanar and said pull tabs project into the window associated therewith.

15 12. A device for extracting spikes, of a spiked plate, from wood comprising a tool head securable to one end of an elongate handle, said tool head having first and second respective opposite terminal ends, an outer face disposed between said first and second terminal ends and having at least a portion thereof curved for rolling engagement with an outer exposed surface of said plate, a slot in said tool head and a mouth entry into said slot located at a position adjacent said second terminal end of the head.

13.. A tool head as defined in claim 12 wherein said curved outer face extends from said first terminal end to an edge of the mouth of said slot.

20 14.. A tool head as defined in claim 13 wherein said second terminal end comprises a hammer head impact free outer end face.

15. A tool head as defined in claim 14 wherein said impact free outer end has a surface disposed at a selected angle to said outer curved face.

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16. A tool head as defined in claim 15 wherein an edge of said mouth intersects said curved outer face and wherein said edge is offset from said impact free outer end in a direction toward said first terminal end of the head.

5 17. A hand tool for removing a spiked plate, having a pull tab thereon, from wood comprising a handle having a tool head mounted on the free outer end thereof, said tool head comprising first and second respective opposite terminal ends, a curved outer face located between said first and second terminal ends, a slot in said head and a mouth entry into said slot located at a position adjacent said second terminal end of the head.

10 18. A hand tool as defined in claim 17 wherein said tool head second terminal end has a relatively flat impact free outer end, wherein an edge of said mouth intersects said curved outer face and where in said edge is offset from said outer free end in a direction toward said first terminal end of the head..

19. A hand tool as defined in claim 17 including a generally flat impact surface adjacent said second terminal end.

15 20. A hand tool as defined in claim 17 including a plug of selected mass detachably secured to said handle and wherein said plug has a generally flat impact surface on a free outer free end thereof.

21. A hand tool as defined in claim 20 including means detachably mounting said plug on said handle.

20 22. A hand tool as defined in claim 20 including an impact resistant member detachably mounted on said impact surface.